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THE ANSWER OF Both Houses of PARLIAMENT,

Presented to His Majestie at YORK the ninth of May, 1642.

To two Messages sent to them from His Majestie, concerning Sir *John Hotham's* Refusall to give His Majestie Entrance into His Town of *Hull*.

WITH

His Majesties REPLY thereunto.

Published by His Majesties Command.

LONDON:
Printed by ROBERT BARKER, Printer to the Kings most Excellent Majestie: And by the Assignes of JOHN BILL.
MDCXLII.

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The most humble Answer Of the Lords and Commons in Parliament, to two Messages from Your Sacred Majestie, concerning Sir *John Hothams* Refusall to give Your Majestie Entrance into the Town of *Hull*.

YOur Majestie may be pleased to understand, That we Your great Councell, finding manifold Evidences of the wicked Counsells and Practices of some in neer trust and authority about You, to put the Kingdom into a combustion, by drawing Your Majestie into places of Strength, remote from Your Parliament, and by exciting Your people to commotions, under pretence of serving Your Majestie against Your Parliament; Lest this malignant Party, by the advantage of the Town and Magazine of *Hull*, should be inabled to go thorow with their mischievous Intentions, Did (in discharge of the great Trust that lies upon us, and by that power which in cases of this nature resides in us) command the Town of *Hull* to be secured by a Garison of the adjoyning Train Bands, under the Government of Sir *John Hotham*, requiring him to keep the same for the service of Your Majestie and the Kingdom, wherein we have done nothing contrary to Your Royall Soveraignty in that Town, or Legall Propriety in the Magazine.

Upon Consideration of Sir *John Hothams* proceedings at Your Majesties being there, we have upon very good Grounds adjudged, That he could not discharge the trust upon which, nor make good the End for which he was placed in the Guard of that Town and Magazine, if he had let in Your Majestie, with such Counsellours and Company as then were about You:

Wherefore upon full Resolution of both Houses, we have declared Sir *John Hotham* to be Clear from that Odious Crime

of Treason, and have Avowed, That he hath therein done nothing, but in Obedience to the Commands of both Houses of Parliament, assuring our selves, That upon mature deliberation Your Majestie will not Interpret his Obedience to such Authority, to be an affront to Your Majestie, or to be of that Nature as to Require any Justice to be done upon him, or satisfaction to be made to Your Majestie: But that you will see just cause of joyning with Your Parliament, in Preserving and Securing the Peace of the Kingdom, suppressing this wicked and Malignant Party, who by false Colours and Pretensions of maintaining Your Majesties Prerogative against the Parliament (wherein they fully agree with the Rebels in *Ireland*) have been the Causes of all our Distempers and Dangers.

For Prevention whereof, we know no better remedie, then setling the *Militia* of the Kingdom according to the Bill which we have sent Your Majestie, without any intention of deserting or declining the Validitie or observance of that Ordinance, which past both Houses upon Your Majesties former refusall: But we still hold that Ordinance to be effectuall by the Laws of this Kingdom.

And we shall be exceeding glad, if Your Majestie by approving these our just, dutifull, and necessary Proceedings, shall be pleased to entertain such counsell, as we assure our selves (by Gods blessing) will prove very advantagious for the Honour and greatnesse of Your Majestie, the safety and Peace of Your People; amongst which we know no more likely to produce such good effects, then a Declaration from Your Majestie of Your purpose to lay aside all thoughts of going into *Ireland*, and to make a speedie return into these parts, to be neer Your Parliament. Which as it is our most humble desire and earnest Petition, so shall it be seconded with our most dutifull Care for the safety of Your Royall Person, and constant prayers, that it may prove honourable and successfull in the happinesse of Your Majestie, and all Your Kingdoms.

His

His Majesties Reply

To the Answer of both Houses of Parliament, Presented to His Majestie the 9th. of *May*, to two Messages sent to them from His Majestie concerning Sir *John Hothams* refusall to give His Majestie Entrance into His Town of *Hull*.

His Majestie was in good hope, that the reason why you so long deferred your Answer to His Messages concerning Hull, was, That you might the better give Him satisfaction therein, which now adds the more to His Astonishment, finding this Answer (after so long Advisement) to be of that nature, which cannot but rather increase, then diminish the present Distractions, if constantly adhered unto by the Parliament. Was it not too much that His Majesties Town of Hull had a Garison put into it, to the great charge of the Countrey, and inconvenience to the poor Inhabitants, without His Majesties Consent and Approbation, under colour at that time of Forreign Invasion, and apprehensions of the Popish parts; but now the Reasons thereof must be inlarged with a scandall to His Majestie and His faithfull servants, onely to bring in the more specious pretext for the avowing of Sir John Hothams Treasonable insolencie?

His Majestie hath often heard of the great trust that by God and mans Law is commited to the King, for the Defence and Safetie of His People, but as yet hath never understood what trust or power is commited to either or both Houses of Parliament without the King; they being summoned to Counsell and Advise the King; but by what Law or Authority they possesse themselves of His Majesties proper right and inheritance, He is confident, that as they have not, so they cannot shew.

His Majestie hitherto hath not given the least interruption to publike Justice; but you rather then suffer one of your Members to come so much as to a Legall Triall for the highest crime, will make use of an Order of Parliament to Countenance Treason, by declaring him free from that guilt which all former Ages never accounted other, and that without so much as enquiring the opinion of the Judges: for His Majestie is confident that you would have mentioned their opinion if you had asked the same.

Therefore His Majestie expects, That upon further and better consideration of the great and necessary consequence of the Bulinesse of Hull, and seriously weighing how much this doth concern the Peace and quiet of the Kingdom, you will (without further instance from His Majestie) give him full and speedy Justice against Sir John Hotham: And He leaves all His good People to think, what hope of Justice there is left for them, when you shall refuse or delay to give your own Sovereign satisfaction: And

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(as His Majestie hath already said) till this be done He will intend no Businesse whatsoever, other then that of Ireland.

And His Majestie likewise expects, That in the way you have expressed in this your Answer, you will not put the Militia in Execution, untill you can shew Him by what Law you have Authoritie to do the same without His consent: Or, if you do, He is confident, That He shall finde much more Obedience according to Law, then you against Law: And His Majestie shall esteem all those that shall obey you therein, to be disturbers of the peace of the kingdom, and in due time call them Legally to a strict account for the same.

As for Ireland, His Majestie referres you to His former Answer.

And lastly, concerning His Return, He never heard, That the slandering of a Kings Government, and His faithfull Servants, The refusing of Him Justice in a case of Treason, And the seeking to take away His undoubted and Legall Authoritie, under the pretence of puting the Kingdom into a Posture of Defence, were Arguments to induce a King to come near, or hearken to His Parliament.

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